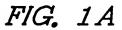
Prior Art



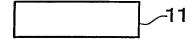


FIG. 1B

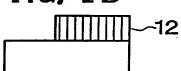


FIG. 1C



FIG. 1D



FIG. 1D'

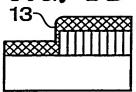


FIG. 1E

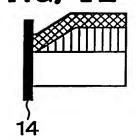


FIG. 1E'

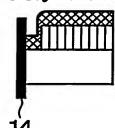
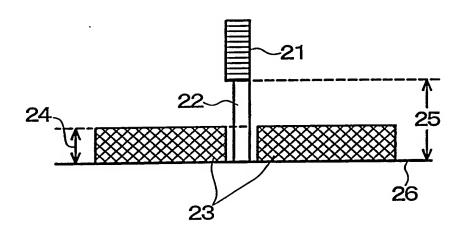
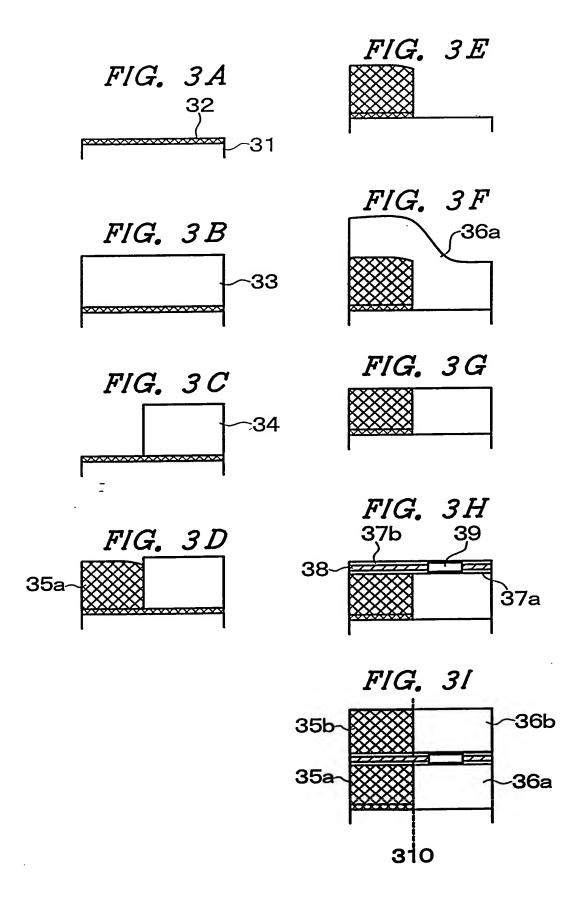


FIG. 2





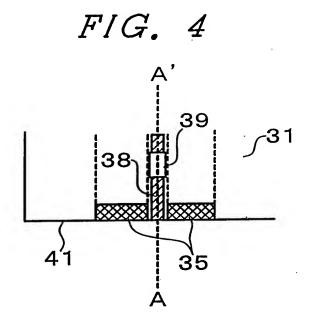


FIG. 5

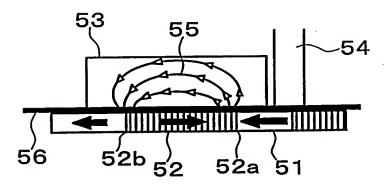
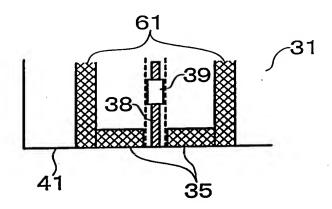


FIG. 6



F/G. 7

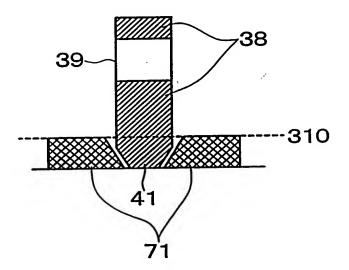


FIG. 8A

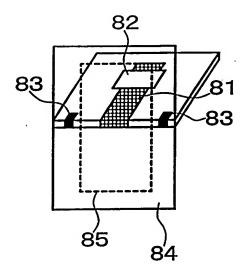
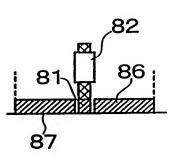
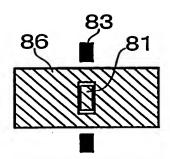


FIG. 8B

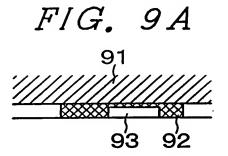


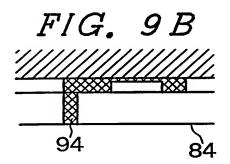
CROSS SECTION

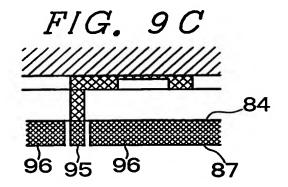
FIG. 8C



BOTTOM SECTION







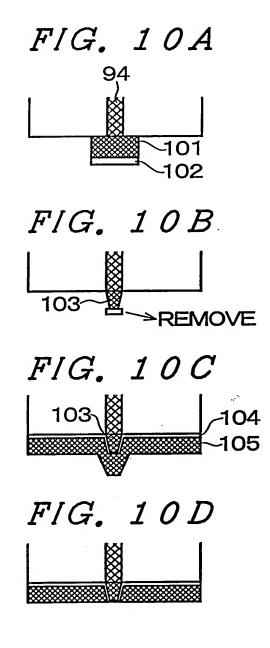


FIG. 12A

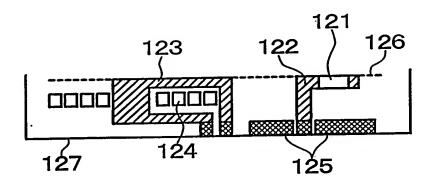


FIG. 12B

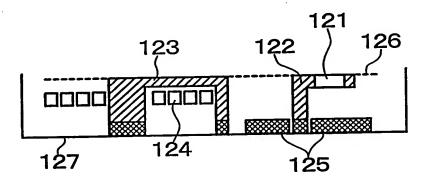
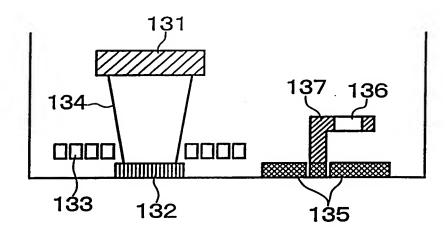


FIG. 13



F/G. 14

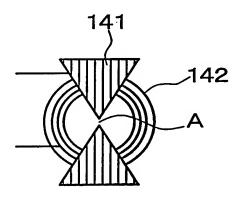
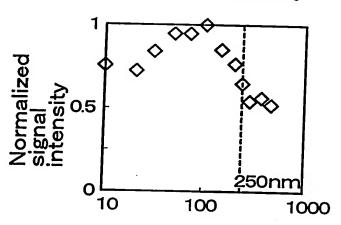


FIG. 15A

Signal intensity



Height of magnetic shield (nm - logarithmic scale)

FIG. 15B

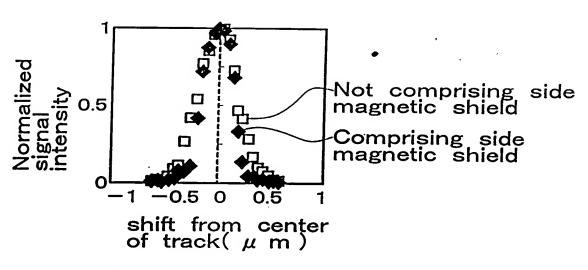
Magnetic flux— detecting element

Thickness of magnetic shield

Magnetic flux— detecting element

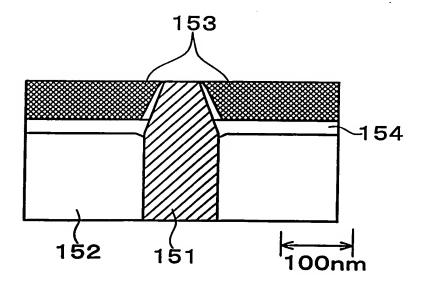
250nm

FIG. 16



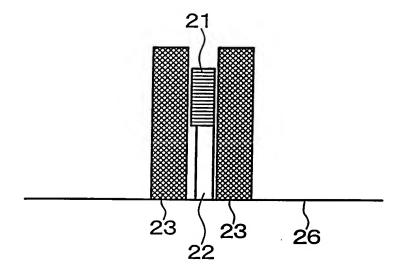
Micro-track profile of reading head

FIG. 17



Prior Art

F/G. 18



Prior Art FIG. 19

